THE RINGING WORLD

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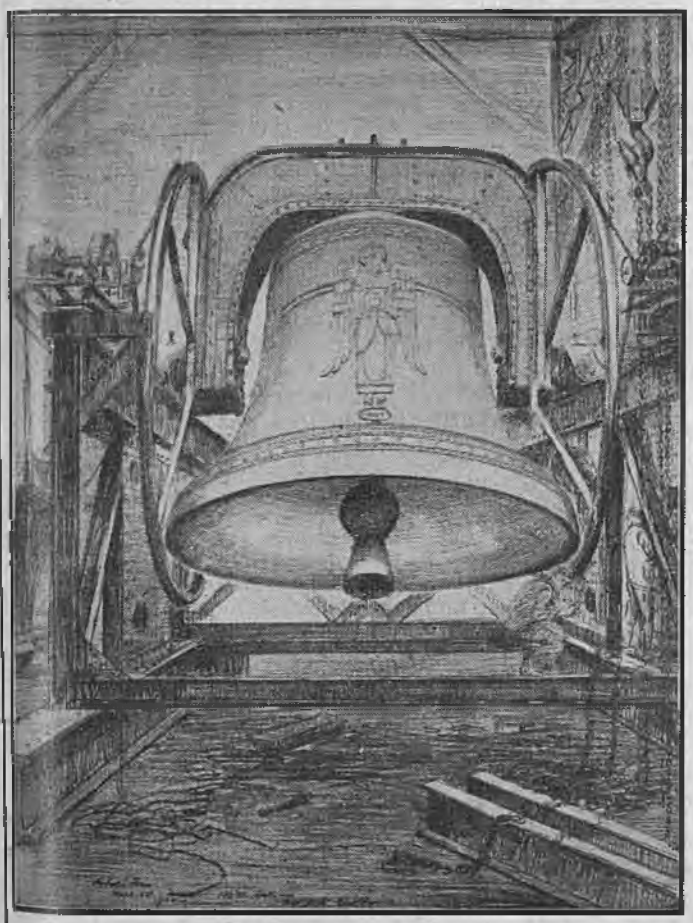

THE 18¼ TON RINGING BELL,
the Bourdon of the Carillon of 64 Bells, about to be installed at RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

A CLOSER TOUCH.

There can be little question, we think, that the Exercise, taken as a whole, is desirous of seeing the Central Council made an effective as well as a nominal head of the Ringing Exercise. Without some such organisation every association would set up its own standards and the art, which is now a national one, might easily lose cohesion both in the expansion of its principles and in its practice. But at present, despite nearly forty years' existence, the Council is not taken seriously by many of the rank and file and its decisions are merely treated as the opinions of a body of people, who may or may not be competent to express them. That, of course, is not the view of those who study what the Council has done and is trying to do. The sum of the Council's labours has been a very large contribution to the progress of the art in the last three or four decades; yet there are still those who imagine that the Exercise could get on very well without it. While the Council's prestige is to-day higher than ever it was, it needs an even wider recognition than it at present receives. How is that recognition to be obtained? We would commend to our readers the article which was contributed to our last issue by a member of the Council. This article put forward a number of steps which it was suggested might be taken to bring the Council into closer relationship with the affiliated bodies, and every one of the points raised is worth the serious consideration of the associations. Not the least important of the changes suggested is, in our opinion, the annual election of the representative members, not merely on the ground that it would enable the associations to ensure that on any issue previously raised its views would be adequately represented, but because we think it would give a closer touch than is now possible, under the triennial elections, between the associations and the Council. At present the election of members of the Council comes before the associations only once in three years, and, except in the few cases where the representatives are asked for a report, nothing tangible to awaken interest in the Council or in any action of the members of the Council, happens again for another three years. An annual election would, at any rate, keep the Council under the attention of the members of the associations, whose interest might be further stimulated if all matters outside the absolutely domestic affairs of the Council were officially communicated by the Council to the affiliated bodies. They could then be commented upon or elaborated by the association's own representatives, and in this way a more direct interest might be established. But with an interval of three years between the happen-

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ESTABLISHED 176

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ings within an association's own proceedings of anything relating to the Council, can it be wondered at that members of the associations not only lose touch but also interest in the Central body? An annual election, therefore, is, in our opinion, a most necessary change in the constitution of the Council.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, August 27, 1929, in Four Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

PERCY O. LAFLIN	*Treble*	ERNEST T. ALLAWAY	7
ALBERT WALKER	2	*FRED PRICE	8
GEORGE F. SWANN	3	ERNEST MORRIS	9
GEORGE R. PYE	4	*SAMUEL GROVE	10
CHARLES T. COLES	5	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD	11
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	6	WILLIAM PYE	*Tenor*

Composed by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus. Both have now rung peals of Cambridge Surprise from Minor to Maximus. First peal of Maximus on the recast bells.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF FORWARD MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	*Treble*	*WILLIAM C. RUMSEY	7
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE	2	*WILLIAM G. SEDGLEY	8
WILLIAM P. GARRETT	3	*ERNEST F. POPPY	9
*HARRY R. ROPER	4	*LEONARD E. LAST	10
*HAROLD E. SYMONDS	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
GEORGE A. FLEMING	6	FREDERICK J. TILLETT	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal in the method. Mr. Poppy's 300th peal. By a coincidence his 100th and 200th peals were rung on the same bell.

CHELTENHAM.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5035 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

JOHN D. MATTHEWS	*Treble*	THOMAS BEVAN	7
JOHN SPARROW	2	*GEORGE W. STEERE	8
RONALD H. BULLEN	3	GEORGE A. CARD	9
ARTHUR N. HARDY	4	GEORGE H. CROSS	10
THOMAS NEWMAN	5	LEONARD H. BAYBUTT	11
CECIL J. MATTHEWS	6	FRANK SMITH	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS

* First peal of Cinques. G. H. Cross' 400th peal.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5091 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

KEITH HART	*Treble*	JACK M. CRIPPS	6
C. ERNEST SMITH	2	ALFRED W. GROVES	7
HENRY J. TUCKER	3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	8
ALFRED T. GREENWOOD	4	EDWIN J. HARDING, SEN.	9
FREDERICK C. J. TURNER	5	ALFRED H. PULLING	*Tenor*

Composed by EDGAR BENNETT. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¼ cwt. in E flat.

HORACE BELCHER	...Treble	JAMES E. DAVIS	6
EDWIN F. PIKE	2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	7
MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS	3	FRANK E. DARBY	8
FRANK I. HAIRS	4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS	9
JOHN T. KENTISH	5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	...Tenor

Composed by WM. PYE. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.
First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal as conductor, to whom the peal was rung as a birthday compliment.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BUXTED, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 24, 1929, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALBERT D. STONE	...Treble	JACK M. CRIPPS	5
GEORGE LAMBERT	2	JOHN DEARLOVE	6
RICHARD D. DIVAL	3	KEITH HART	7
FREDERICK C. J. TURNER	4	WILFRED BOOTH	...Tenor

Conducted by KEITH HART.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 26, 1929, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ROLAND KENDALL	...Treble	HARRY WILDE	5
ARTHUR SKELTON	2	SAM LONGBOTTOM	6
CLIFFORD ELLISON	3	WILLIAM AMBLER	7
EDGAR WHITELEY	4	HAROLD PEARCE	...Tenor

Composed by J. BARKER. Conducted by WM. AMBLER.
Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th. The band wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Whiteley for their kind hospitality after the peal.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, August 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. HOLLIER	...Treble	ERNEST G. GARRARD	5
EDWARD A. MORRIS	2	REGINALD G. ILSLEY	6
WILFRED G. WILSON	3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	7
FREDERICK W. GOODFELLOW	4	ARTHUR HARDING	...Tenor

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.
This is believed to be the first peal of Stedman on the bells.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, August 28, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES BILBY	...Treble	JOSEPH T. DYKE	5
SAMUEL J. HECTOR	2	*WILLIAM R. BAXTER	6
RONALD G. BECK	3	*CHARLES DOEL	7
*WILLIAM LODD	4	CHARLES F. ANDREWS	...Tenor

Composed by WM. A. CAVE. Conducted by C. F. ANDREWS.
* First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Raison, the local steeplekeeper.

NEWDIGATE, SURREY.—At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, September 1st, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: G. Brett 1, Mrs. W. Spooner 2, W. Spooner 3, Miss H. Darville 4, C. Mitchell 5, R. Brett (conductor) 6. Also rung as a farewell to G. Brett.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, August 30, 1929, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINOS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.	...Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	5
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN.	2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN	3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	7
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	4	WILLIAM R. BOND	...Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.
The quickest peal on the bells.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, August 30, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 17¼ cwt.

WILLIAM L. GOFTON	...Treble	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	5
*ROBERT S. STRATFORD	2	ADAM DEAS	6
*JOHN ANDERSON	3	STEPHEN W. STRATFORD	7
WILLIAM H. BARBER	4	THOMAS T. GOFTON	...Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by THOMAS T. GOFTON.
* First peal in the method. Great credit is due to the ringer of the second, who is just thirteen years of age.

LINTON, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

HARRY BAKER	...Treble	CHARLES H. SONE	5
MRS. H. BAKER	2	WILLIAM ASHDOWN	6
WILLIAM E. PITMAN	3	†ALEXANDRA WADDINGTON	7
*JAMES W. KNIGHT	4	THOMAS E. SONE	...Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS (319). Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
* First peal 'inside.' † First peal of Treble Bob.

BUCKLAND, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt.

*EDMUND A. PASSAM	...Treble	*WILLIAM COLLETT	5
MRS. A. E. LOCK	2	WALTER F. JUDGE	6
JACK HONEY	3	ALBERT E. LOCK	7
*JOHN NOBES	4	GORDON CAUDWELL	...Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT E. LOCK.
* First peal in the method.

STANSTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 13 cwt.

*WILLIAM T. PRIOR	...Treble	ERNEST J. BUTLER	5
WILLIAM PYE	2	ERNEST W. FURBANK	6
GEORGE JORDON	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
GEORGE R. PYE	4	WALTER AYRE	...Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.
* 150th peal.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¾ cwt.

JOHN H. BROTHWELL	...Treble	*JOHN W. ENGLAND	5
JOHN HOLMAN	2	JESSE J. MOSS	6
THOMAS BETTISON	3	EDWARD ROBBINS	7
*WILLIAM SWAIN	4	JOHN FLINT	...Tenor

Composed by REV. H. EARLE BULWER. Conducted by JOHN FLINT.
* First peal in the method.

MORETONHAMPSTEAD, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

*EVERARD DAVENPORT	...*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER WALKER	... 5
MRS. E. S. POWELL ...	... 2	‡VICTOR BENNETT ...	... 6
†MISS J. DAVENPORT ...	... 3	REV. E. S. POWELL ...	... 7
JOHN ARBURY	... 4	FRANK DAVEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by MRS. E. S. POWELL.

* First peal. † First peal inside. ‡ First peal of Bob Major. First peal of Major on the bells. First peal to be conducted by a lady for the Devonshire Guild.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,
A PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON	...*Treble*	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH	5
GEORGE F. GARRISON...	... 2	FRED PRICE	... 6
WILLIAM J. MEARS ...	... 3	WILLIAM DAVIS	... 7
GEORGE F. SWANN ...	... 4	HERBERT C. SPENCER	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and by the Guild. Rung at the first attempt.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 15¾ cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS ...	...*Treble*	JOHN THORPE	... 5
MISS NOEL CAWTHORNE	... 2	*ALBERT SMITHSON ...	... 6
WILLIAM A. WOOLER ...	... 3	ARTHUR PASHLEY ...	... 7
J. EDWARD CAWSER ...	... 4	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

LEYTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 8 cwt.

*ROBERT MOLTON ...	...*Treble*	ALFRED PRIOR	... 5
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON	2	GEORGE DAWSON ...	... 6
ERNEST E. HOLMAN ...	... 3	WILLIAM H. THEOBALD	... 7
*HAROLD A. EDWARDS	... 4	†JOHN BULLEN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES MARSH	...*Treble*	JAMES W. GROUNDS ...	... 5
JOHN POTTER	... 2	JOHN BOOTH	... 6
JOSEPH POTTER	... 3	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ...	... 7
*CHRIS GUDGEON ...	... 4	WALTER W. WOLSTENBROFT	*Tenor*

Composed by GEORGE H. CROSS. Conducted by JOSEPH H. RIDYARD

* First peal in the method. First peal as conductor. This was the first time this method had been rung on the bells since 1914.

UXBRIDGE.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday, August 18th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins.: E. G. Swift 1, P. E. Jones 2, R. Warnett 3, C. Nicholls 4, T. J. Setter (first quarter in the method) 5, R. Carter 6, F. Corke (conductor) 7, J. H. Lucas 8.

EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17¾ cwt.

THOMAS BENNEY ...	..*Treble*	ERNEST BRETT	... 5
HERBERT LANGDON ...	.. 2	JOSEPH S. HAWKINS	... 6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ...	... 3	CECIL W. PIPE	... 7
JAMES BULLOCK	... 4	EDWARD J. SAMPSON...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. LANGDON.

Rung on the 78th anniversary of the birthday of Mr. T. Benney, who took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples at the same church on April 26th, 1875, for the above society.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¾ cwt.

JOHN S. MORLEY	...*Treble*	NELSON ELLIOTT... ...	... 5
GEORGE OLLIVER	2	BERNARD WELLS... ...	... 6
ROBERT SWIFT	... 3	ALFRED J. BULL	... 7
KENNETH SNELLING	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

Arranged and rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Cecil Nice (a popular member of the local band), and Miss Dorothy Emery, which took place on the above date.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

DENNINGTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sunday, August 25, 1929, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 of Kent, two 720's each of Woodbine and Oxford Treble Bob, and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

JAMES BENNETT	...*Treble*	GEORGE BENNETT ...	... 4
GEORGE PRYKE	... 2	JAMES WARDLEY ...	... 5
WILLIAM A. WOODS ...	... 3	GEORGE W. ABLITT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE W. ABLITT.

FELKIRK, YORKS.
BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Monday, August 26, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Hull, Ringers', Berwick, Chester, Sandiacre, Carlisle and Canterbury. Tenor 10 cwt.

A. KELSALL	...*Treble*	H. CHANT	... 4
A. COLE...	... 2	D. SMITH	... 5
M. PERRY	... 3	J. T. WHITE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. T. WHITE.

This is the first Surprise peal by all the band, also the first Surprise peal on these bells.

LAPLEY, STAFFORD.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two extents, ten different callings. Tenor 10 cwt (approx.).

ALBERT D. COLLINS ...	...*Treble*	*ABRAHAM GREENFIELD	... 3
HERBERT R. PICKERING	... 2	HERBERT E. BOOTH ...	... 4
*HARRY BOSWELL ...	...	...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ABRAHAM GREENFIELD.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles and first attempt. First peal of Grandsire Doubles on the bells. First peal on five bells by all the band. The conductor has now rung Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques. The band extend their thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and his kind hospitality after the peal.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, August 25, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

*MRS. RUPERT RICHARDSON	1-2	WALTER AYRE	5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON... ...	3-4	†HAROLD J. POOLE	7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON

* First peal 'in hand' away from the tenors. † First peal of Bob Major 'in hand.'

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, August 31, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 7200 CHANGES;

Ten different callings.

FRANK A. TURNER	1-2	STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ...	3-4
ARTHUR SYMONDS...	5-6		

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Longest length on handbells in West Suffolk.

THE VICISSITUDES OF AN ANCIENT BELL.

BROKEN AND UNWANTED—NOW TO AUGMENT ABBEY RING.

Few ancient bells can have experienced the vicissitudes of that which is shortly to find a new home in Minster Abbey Church at Sheppey. Recently the five bells here were restored by the generosity of Mr. S. T. Hipwell, the old bell above referred to (broken and useless) is now to be recast at the Whitchapel Foundry, and is to be added to Minster Abbey ring to make a peal of six.

The story of this ancient bell is told by the 'Sheerness Guardian,' and will be of interest to ringers:—

'It was cast round about the year 1602 by Messrs. Hatch, the same family which, some 60 years later, cast the bells of Minster Abbey Church. The long, slender shape of the bell indicates its antiquity. That bell was hung in the tower of Warden Church, a mud and plaster building, with a stone tower, which alone withstood the onslaught of time. In due course, however, the church had to be demolished. (Contrary to the usual story, it did not fall down the cliffs, although its remains are at present under the sea.) The bell, apparently unwanted, lay for a considerable time among the ruins, forgotten by most people, and neglected by the rest.

'So time passed, until, during the time when the late Mr. W. Bramston was Vicar of Minster, it was decided to build a mission church at Halfway. The church was built, and there was but one thing that was missing—a bell. Then Mr. Crawley, who had long been interested in the project, remembered the bell at Warden. He approached the Vicar on the matter, permission was sought and obtained, and the bell was carted from its bed among the ruins and installed into the tower of St. Peter's Church, where again it entered upon its ecclesiastical duties. Its career, however, was not to remain undisturbed, for before very long a fire broke out at the church, which was destroyed. Again the bell was found among the ruins, but the intense heat and the fall had done their work—it was in pieces.

'That seemed likely to be the end of its career, but Mr. Crawley again intervened, and the pieces were collected. Being useless for their original purpose, however, they were deposited in a forge kept by Mr. Foreman, then at Halfway, now at Minster. There they remained, lying in an obscure corner, until the removal of Mr. Foreman to Minster. There being then no place to store the remains of the bell, they were taken to Minster Abbey Church, where they remained beneath the clock in the bell tower until the death of the Vicar of Minster, and the coming of the Rev. E. A. Miller, some four years ago. At that time the parish of Warden was taken away from Minster, to which it had formerly belonged, and was transferred to Eastchurch. The goods of the parish had accordingly to be transferred also, and among them the broken bell, still unwanted, travelled.

'During the last few years the pieces have lain at Eastchurch. Nobody seemed to want them, and nobody seemed to know what to do with them. Then Mr. Hipwell, having restored the bells at Minster, wished for another bell, in order that the church might be brought into line with Eastchurch and Queenborough, which possess six bells each, there being only five at Minster. Hearing by chance of the broken Warden bell, Mr. Hipwell approached the Vicar of Minster with a view to getting the pieces transferred. This was done, and the pieces were sent to London, where they are now in process of being recast.'

THREE GUILDS MEET.

Three neighbouring Guilds, Guildford, Oxford and Winchester and Portsmouth, held a joint meeting at Hawley, Hants, on Saturday. Hawley is one of the few Hampshire towers which came into the Guildford Diocese when the old Winchester Diocese was divided, and it stands very close to the boundaries of all three of the dioceses mentioned. Yateley, an eight-bell tower, only a mile or so away, is in the Winchester Diocese, and Sandhurst, with six bells, a little further off, is in the diocese of Oxford. All these towers were open for ringing in the afternoon, but the visitors, who numbered nearly 60, seemed to concentrate on Hawley.

The Guildford Guild's form of service was used, and was conducted (in the absence of the Rector of Hawley) by the Rev. D. L. Board, of Wolverton, hon. secretary of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild. The lesson was read and the address given by the Rev. B. Long, Rector of Wokingham, who succeeded Canon G. F. Coleridge as Rural Dean of Sonning. He preached from Romans xi. 13, 'I magnify mine office,' and spoke of the necessity of recognising, first of all, the importance of any work which was undertaken, and of recognising, next, their weakness in being able to carry it through. A grasp of these two principles, he said, would do much towards making their work better and more effective. They as bellringers were officers with a great work to do for God and His Church, and they could magnify their office if they had in mind the two principles to which he had referred. The rank and file in the Church looked to them to see that their work was well done, and that their lives were lived as became their high calling.

Tea was served in the Memorial Hall, after which there were votes of thanks to the incumbents of the churches, the preacher, the organist, and those, including Mr. Boyles, who had made the local arrangements, proposed by Admiral T. P. Walker, D.S.O., hon. treasurer of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, who welcomed the visiting Guilds, and said how greatly the Guildford Guild valued the opportunity of meeting their neighbours in this friendly way.

Mr. G. Pullinger (general secretary of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild) replied, remarking that he hoped the joint gathering of the three Guilds would become an annual event.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert (general secretary of Oxford Diocesan Guild) also referred to the good results that must accrue from such meetings, and he apologised for the absence of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), who was away on holiday.

Mr. W. J. Paice (hon. secretary of Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Guild) said that Canon Coleridge had sent his regrets that he was unable to be present, as he also was away on holiday. Mr. Paice went on the say that the proposal to have a peal of twelve bells at St. Lawrence's Church, Reading, had now been definitely decided upon. It would be the first peal of 12 in Berkshire, and the scheme had gone through largely as the result of the efforts of Mr. Hibbert. About £170 had got to be raised for these two bells, and the help of any ringers would be greatly appreciated.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, hon. secretary of the Guildford Guild, also spoke, and Mr. Hibbert explained the position of the scheme for augmenting St. Lawrence's bells.

A number of contributions were afterwards handed to Mr. G. Gilbert, who had brought with him an official receipt book.

Among those who attended the gathering, in addition to those whose names have already been mentioned, were Mr. G. Williams (Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild), who had to leave early, Mr. C. Denyer (hon. secretary of the Farnham District of the Guildford Guild), Mr. Wilfred Andrews (Winchester Cathedral), and ringers from Aldershot, Bagshot, Bramley (Hants), Binfield, Finchampstead, Harrow Weald, Hawley, Maidenhead, Seale, Sandhurst, Slough, Woking, Wokingham, etc. In the evening there was further ringing, and Yorktown bells, another ring of eight, were also open.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Kildwick on Saturday, August 24th. The attendance was small, the following towers being represented: Bradford, Halifax, Keighley, Sheffield, Guiseley, Far Headingley, Queensbury, Skipton and the local company. In the afternoon, touches of Grandsire and Treble Bob were rung, and at 5 o'clock an adjournment was made for tea. Afterwards, the business meeting was held in the Parish Room, Mr. J. Cotterell (vice-president) being in the chair.

There were no invitations for the December meeting forthcoming, and it was decided to endeavour to arrange one at St. Michael's, Headingley.

Votes of thanks were proposed to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, to Mr. J. J. Brigg for kindly placing his grounds at the disposal of the visitors, and to the local company for the arrangements made. These were carried unanimously. The tower was again visited, and touches of Double Norwich, Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, and Grandsire were rung.

SOME INTERESTING CHURCHES.

ESSEX RINGERS' HAPPY EXCURSION.

The Loughton and Woodford ringers had their annual outing on Saturday, August 24th. Invitations to join the party were extended to the Wanstead ringers and friends of the local bands, and forty-one lined up for the two charabancs engaged for the trip. By eight o'clock the 'Right away' was sounded, and signs of a sunny day quickly put all in a happy vein.

Witham was chosen as the first halting place, via Epping, High Ongar, and Chelmsford. The landscape varied, beginning with hawthorns gaily bedecked with crimson berries, followed by stretches of fascinating forest scenery. Dainty birches, leafy beeches, and pollarded hornbeams with their fantastic arms and grotesque trunks, here and there interspersed with open stretches of bracken and tall grasses crossed by verderers' footpaths, gave a beautiful setting to a road that has become a highway for motorists and cyclists. Signs of the changing times were seen at North Weald, where aviation and wireless have been developed. Further on, harvest operations were in full swing, and in some places the golden ears had been called upon to give up their yield. Chelmsford was soon reached, but no time could be spared to look round the Cathedral. The main road traffic was then experienced. What a contrast to the old coaching days!

Witham was reached in good time. Timbered houses and gabled inns were noticed whilst passing through the thousand-years-old town, famous in history for its resistance, to the Danish invaders in the year 913. The Church of St. Nicolas, situated in that part of Witham known as Chipping Hill, rises prominently above the quaint and attractive cottages that surround a triangular Green, and is regarded as one of the best edifices in Essex, with good examples of early 14th century workmanship. The outstanding features are the battlemented tower built chiefly of large pebbles and flints with a fair number of Roman tiles, the pseudo-Norman south porch, the well-proportioned chancel containing handsomely carved choir stalls and bordered with fine oaken screens, the lady chapel, a recent memorial to the late Canon Ingles, and beautiful stained glass windows, also memorials to old worshippers. Near the organ are two recumbent full-length figures, carved in alabaster and coloured, placed over the tomb of Sir John Southcote, a judge, and his wife, who lived in the 16th century.

The party was met by Mr. Wm. Butler, one of the progressive local band. Touches of Kent, Cambridge Surprise, Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles were rung, and the tone of the bells, particularly that of the tenor, 18 cwt., was greatly admired. With the addition of two trebles, St. Nicolas would possess a very musical octave, and would become a 'Mecca' of ringers, near and far.

Colchester was reached by mid-day, after having passed through a famous seed-growing district with Dobbies' name well to the fore. Dinner was promptly served at the Red Lion Hotel.

A hasty visit was paid to the ancient castle close by, where the museum contains some wonderful specimens of Roman pottery, coins, etc.

East Bergholt was visited next in order to see the 400-years-old bell cage that stands in the churchyard. Mr. Scarfe kindly arranged for his band to be present to ring the five bells, tenor reputed to be 28 cwt. The unique setting of the bells in the frame with only the headstock to control the swing requires very careful manipulation and correct timing. Congratulations to the local band for carrying on under difficulties!

The next halt was made at St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh, where touches were rung of Grandsire Triples, Stedman and Kent Treble Bob Major on a light musical eight. The well-proportioned church is in a very good state of preservation. The chancel roof and walls are beautifully decorated. The tower, with a decorated top, is built of brick and flint, the ringing being done from the ground floor. A very old oak door is within the stately south porch.

A quick run was then made to Braintree, via Marks Tey and Coggeshall, places that played an interesting part in the early days of the woollen trade. A hearty welcome was given by Mr. Wiffen. Time would only allow for one good touch of Grandsire Triples. The tower, of Early English style, has a conspicuous spire, 120 feet high. The south chapel is noteworthy for its fine wood carving in the roof, consisting of deeply moulded ribs and very interesting bosses. A framed document gives the names of all who perished in the Plague of 1665—about one-third of the residents.

Tea was taken at the White Hart, Harlow Common, after an interesting run through Dunmow and Hatfield Broad Oak.

At the conclusion of the meal a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J. Chalk (Wanstead), and carried with acclamation, to Mr. J. Ramm (Loughton) and Mr. C. Moriss (Woodford), the organisers of a very successful outing. Both expressed their delight in the work that they had undertaken, and their willingness to arrange for future outings.

The Church of St. Mary Magdalene was only a short distance away, and in the absence of Mr. G. Dent, Mr. H. Smale and members of the local band extended a hearty welcome to all comers. The church is of modern construction, with the main entrance through the tower door. The gargoyles attached to the tower depict local celebrities.

(Continued in next column.)

NO 'TRICKS' AT 'THE FOUNDRY.'

Accompanied by a few ringers from Croft, Earl Shilton ringers visited Loughborough for their annual outing on Saturday, August 24th. The principal attraction was the Bell Foundry, where they were met by Mr. H. Stubbs, who kindly conducted the party round the works, where new peals and chimes of bells were objects of great interest. Mr. J. P. Fidler kindly entertained the party with tunes on a carillon which had been erected before being despatched to America. The ringers then adjourned to the foundry campanile, where some well-struck touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were brought round on the little peal. After a good repast at a local cafe, the party visited Woodhouse Eaves and tried the very nice ring of six there, the 'bag' being six-score of Grandsire and Stedman, touches of Bob Minor and courses of Kent Treble Bob. Tunes and courses of Grandsire Triples on the handbells brought a very pleasant outing to a close. Thanks are due to Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. for kind permission to visit the foundry, and Messrs. Stubbs and Fidler for their kindness. The Foundry bells on this occasion did not 'play tricks,' as is sometimes recorded in 'The Ringing World' as being the case when strangers handle them. One resident remarked that he thought the local men were ringing them. If ringers cannot ring at the Foundry it is entirely their own fault. The party take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Ringing Master at Woodhouse Eaves for putting the bells at that church at their disposal.

HARWICH RINGERS' TOUR.

The annual outing of the St. Nicholas' Guild, Harwich, took place on Saturday, August 24th, in glorious weather. Leaving Harwich at 8.45 a.m. by charabanc, a party of twelve, with their friends, set forth for a visit to Braintree and Maldon. After journeying through Colchester and Marks Tey, a call was made at Great Tey, and a visit was paid to the tower of this old church, where the bells were set going to Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. At Braintree, the party were met by Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Essex Association) and Mr. Wiffen, who had everything in readiness for ringing at the Parish Church. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were brought round on this nice peal of eight, the 'go' of them being splendid. Lunch was served at the Nag's Head, under the supervision of Host E. Searle, and was much appreciated. Lunch over, the journey was resumed to Maldon. Here they were met at All Saints' by Mr. F. Chalk, and touches of Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob Major were duly brought round. The last time the company rang here the bells were a peal of six. After tea, tracks were made for St. Mary's, where there is a peal of six. This is a very old tower, with enough room for 12 bells. Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor were brought round, also two courses of Grandsire Triples on handbells. The party left for home via Tip Tree and Colchester, Harwich being reached at 11 p.m. The company wish, through 'The Ringing World,' to thank the various incumbents for the use of the bells, also Mr. J. Dyer (Great Tey), Mr. C. H. Howard (Master), and Mr. Wiffen (Braintree), and Mr. F. Chalk (Maldon) for their kindness which made the day so enjoyable and the outing a success.

LEEDS SOCIETY BREAKS NEW GROUND.

The Leeds and District Society held another successful and well-attended gathering on Saturday. New ground was broken in the society's history by holding the meeting at Batley. The Vicar welcomed the ringers at 3 p.m., and apologised for the weather, although, he said, he knew rain did not interfere with ringing, as it had done with a garden party which was to have been held in the Vicarage grounds that afternoon.

Ringers were present from Calverley, Rothwell, Headingley (St. Chad's), Leeds Parish Church, Lindley, Mirfield, Liversedge, Armley, and the local company. After various methods had been rung, some of the ringers adjourned to the church schools and joined in the tea which had been arranged for the garden party.

The next meeting will be held at Hunslet Parish Church on September 28th.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and to the local company for the necessary arrangements, brought the business meeting to a close, when ringing was resumed.

(Continued from previous column.)

The tone and easy running of the bells, cast by J. Taylor and Co. in 1905, won the admiration of all. Touches of Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich and Bob Minor were rung, but time stopped the cry for more.

Daylight and ringing were both finished, and the run home was brightened by the 'gentle whispers' of the young bloods and the tuneful Norfolk melodies of Mr. Plummer. A happy day had been spent, the spirit of comradeship had been strengthened, and confidence gained by those who had recently become association members. All offer their sincere thanks to the incumbents of the various parishes for the use of the bells, and to the ringers who greeted the party.

PORTSMOUTH RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday last the ringers of the Cathedral Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Portsmouth, with their friends, held their first annual outing, which included visits to six towers in three counties. The tour commenced punctually at the scheduled time, 7.30 a.m., which fact elicited remarks from the facetious ones, comparing this with the times of attendance on Sundays and practice nights. After a pleasant run of 30 miles, through the beautiful Meon Valley (during which certain members completed their rudely disturbed beauty sleep), Alton was reached at 9.15 a.m., where the splendid octave at St. Lawrence's Church (tenor 18 cwt.) were soon in motion, touches being rung in the standard methods. Leaving at 10 a.m., a quick run took the party into Farnham by 10.30 a.m. Here an old friend in the person of Mr. R. Hasted was present, and by the time half the party had tracked the elder ringers, who had found a very congenial retreat in which to renew old acquaintanceship, and a couple of touches had been rung, it was found that the driver was playing a solo on his horn, being already 20 minutes late for leaving. The next stop was Dorking, where a splendid lunch was done ample justice to at the White Horse Hotel, an ancient and historic coaching house, in which half the ladies of the party lost their way in the labyrinth of passages. Unfortunately time did not permit of any ringing here in this town owing to the time lost by the conviviality at the last stop. A pleasant run of 14 miles brought the party to Horsham, where a certain member was taught a lesson regarding ringing with a slack rope, when the rope slipped wheel. Touches of Stedman and Kent were brought round. Another six miles landed the party in Billingshurst, where a good ring (tenor 13 cwt.) were soon going to Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob Major, which were successfully brought round, before settling off for Petworth and tea at the Angel Hotel. After three of the party had been dragged from the intricacies of clock golf, a move was made to the tower, where hangs a beautiful octave, and great surprise was expressed that such a specimen of the bell founders' art should exist without a resident change-ringing band to ring them. Pulborough was reached at 7.15 p.m., where 45 minutes' ringing in the company of Mr. Doick was thoroughly enjoyed, the return journey being made via Slindon Woods and Chichester. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major, the conducting being shared among Messrs. F. A. and F. W. Burnett and H. L. W. Aitken. All who participated wish to express, through the medium of this paper, their gratitude to all incumbents and steeplekeepers, who contributed so much by their courtesy and assistance to the success of the outing.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT ENTERTAINED AT STAINES.

A meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held in tropical heat at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, but the riverside tower drew a large company, nearly 60 being present from Acton, Chiswick, Ealing, Heston, Hillingdon, Harrow, Beaconsfield, Boyn Hill, Maidenhead, Feltham, Farnham Royal, Putney, Croydon, Staines, etc. Ringing started at 3.20, and methods from Grandsire Triples up to and including Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise were practised during the meeting. A service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. W. H. Flecker), and the singing was led by the organ.

After service, the company was entertained to tea by the Vicar and Mrs. Flecker in the Parish Hall. The Vicar presided, supported by the vice-president (Mr. C. S. Bird), Mrs. Flecker and Mrs. Bird. The usual business was transacted. Dr. W. H. Flecker was elected an honorary member, and Master George Hawksworth a ringing member for Acton.

At the request of the Vicar, several touches of Caters, Major and Triples were rung on handbells by Messrs. F. Goodfellow (Ringing Master), W. Wilson, R. A. Fardon, E. S. Turner, G. Martin, J. Herbert, J. R. Mackman, Mr. and Mrs. C Mayne.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. and Mrs. Flecker for their kind hospitality, which was greatly appreciated by the whole company, to the Vicar for conducting the service and the welcome he gave to the Guild, to the organist, to Miss Helen E. Riggs, who so ably served the tea with the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. G. Walmsley, and the attention they paid to the needs of the company will not be forgotten.

An appeal was made by the hon. secretary on behalf of Mr. Tom Beadle, who is in his 79th year, and has been in and out of hospital for the past three years. He has been a member of the Isleworth band for forty-four years, and was a pioneer of change ringing in West Middlesex.

The sum of two guineas was collected at the meeting. Further contributions will be gratefully received by the hon. secretary of the district (Mr. W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4), and will be acknowledged in 'The Ringing World.'

Best thanks to Mr. W. E. Parker and Mr. Walmsley of the local band brought a most pleasant afternoon to a close. Afterwards the bells of St. Peter's and St. Mary's Churches were rung.

The next meeting will be held at Twickenham, and the usual notice will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The first lady to conduct a peal for the Devon Guild is Mrs. E. S. Powell, wife of the president of the Guild. This she did on Saturday, when she called a peal of Bob Major at Moretonhampstead.

An appeal is being made on behalf of Mr. Tom Beadle, an old Isleworth ringer, who, nearly 80 years of age, is in failing health. He was a pioneer of the old West Middlesex Association. Some further particulars about the appeal will be found in the report of the Middlesex County Association meeting.

The West Middlesex Association, the nucleus from which the present flourishing Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild grew, was established 45 years ago.

Robert S. Stratford, of Whitley Bay, is one of the youngest ringers in the North of England, and at the age of thirteen he has now rung a peal of Double Norwich Major.

What was the 'Catch-joint company of change ringers' which met at St. Peter's Church, Hindley, Lancs, on August 29th, 1874, and 'rang in excellent style Mr. John Holt's ten-course peal of Grandsire Triples'?

Did James Barham, the famous old Leeds (Kent) ringer ring a church bell for a longer period without a stop than any other man before or since? A correspondent raises this question, and remarks that he has seen it recorded that in the 40,320 Barham rang for 14 hrs. 50 mins. on end.

A peal of 6,140 of 'Bobb Major Royal' was rung at Coventry on September 6th, 1807. Coventry, to the regret of all ringers, has long been without a ringing peal in its famous spire. The authorities are still waiting for a generous donor to build a campanile.

Charles Henry Hattersley, of Sheffield, one of the finest composers of the last generation, was born on September 12th, 1844. He died at the age of 71 years.

Mr. Thomas Benney, one of the oldest members of the College Youths, has just celebrated his 78th birthday by ringing in a peal of Stedman Triples, at Edmonton, where he rang a peal of Grandsire Triples over 54 years ago with the Ancient Society. This is a rare link for a man to forge.

THE QUICKEST PEAL ON EIGHT BELLS?

What is the quickest peal of Triples rung on tower bells?

Last Friday a peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Crayford in 2 hrs. 14 mins.! It was rung in a deliberate attempt to see how quickly a peal could be completed on these fast-going bells, the tenor of which is 12¾ cwt., and the band really surprised themseves.

Naturally, as the outcome, there is an inquiry as to the fastest tower bell peal of Triples. The band that rang the peal at Crayford make no claim to a record, but they would like to know if any peal of Triples has been rung on church bells in quicker time.

The rate of striking was over 37 changes per minute, which is, when one comes to think about it, a remarkable speed.

'The Ringing World' will be glad to receive brief particulars of any eight-bell peals on tower bells rung in 2 hrs. 20 mins. or less.

THE SHERWOOD YOUTHS.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT GREASLEY.

A meeting of the Society of Sherwood Youths had been arranged at Nuthall for Saturday last, but owing to the sudden death of the church organist, the Vicar (Canon Boden) asked that the meeting should be postponed. The request was, naturally, immediately acceded to. Communication with the Rev. J. S. Galloway, of Greasley, asking for the use of his bells resulted in permission being at once readily given by telephone message as follows: 'Come; shall be delighted to have you.' A notice was, therefore, left on the church door at Nuthall informing those who cared to travel on to Greasley.

The party's arrival was welcomed by some of the local men and also the Vicar, and a very delightful two hours' ringing was enjoyed by all, only one touch failing to come round. Members and friends were present from the following towers: Bottesford, Cotgrave, St. Mary's, Nottingham, Arksey, Loughborough, and the locals. Touches in the following methods were brought round: 360 Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and a plain course of Cambridge Surprise Minor. As the party were just thinking of getting ready for home, a well-known representative of the local bell foundry walked in. He was either 'prospecting' or 'joy-riding'; it is not known which, so there was another 'set to,' and the evening finished with a nice touch of Stedman Triples with the above-mentioned gentleman ringing the 6th. The bells at Greasley are a very nice, handy ring of eight by Taylor.

A very enjoyable meeting ended with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and the local men for meeting the members, and further meetings of the same kind are hoped for.

It is proposed to have the next meeting at Southwell Minster, on September 28th.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

To the Editor.

Sir, — No one, I feel sure, could do otherwise than applaud the spirit and general tenour of the article on the Central Council contributed to your last issue. With the bulk of its suggestions I cordially agree, and if I seem to criticise some of them, it is solely with a view, in complete harmony with your contributor, to forward the Council's utility and influence.

As far as regards the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association in its relation with the Council the 'ground of disagreement' is what I have never been able to discover, the ground hitherto alleged in your columns being wholly, and I may say ridiculously inadequate, and suggesting some hidden discontent which has not yet come out.

The Council can, of course, alter its constitution, and I am among the number of those who say: By all means let it do so, or at least let it try. I much doubt if an annual election of its members would effect any considerable difference, but there could be no harm in giving it a trial. As concerns the Council's policy, it can work only on the materials supplied to it. In other words, it can never make its own policy. Its policy is that which the associations and the Exercise make for it. It can, of course, decline to deal with any subject that it thinks questionable or dangerous, but of these the only ones treated thus, so far as I remember, have been proposals that the Council should deal with or have control of funds other than its own, those, that is to say, which defray its own expenses of meeting, committees, printing, etc. It has purposely held aloof from anything in the shape of benefits in illness or in want of work, or anything of that sort, and my own strong opinion, I may say, certainly, is that the moment it trangresses this rule it is digging its own grave.

Of your contributor's meaning in saying that it would be well 'to make it a *sine qua non* of membership that the Council's rulings should be recognised' I am not sure. 'Membership'—of what? Of the Council or of the association? If of the Council, surely it is the case already. If of the association I do not see how it can be ensured. The rest of the paragraph is quite plain, and I heartily agree with it.

I heartily agree, also, with the contributor's two concluding suggestions, viz., that it might be well for each association to pay an annual lump subscription to the Council according to the number of its resident members, and to elect the maximum (or a smaller) number of representatives to which that subscription entitles them; and, secondly, that notices of motion should be forwarded a certain number of weeks beforehand by the honorary secretary of the association to the honorary secretary of the Council, and be published by the latter in 'The Ringing World' not less than six weeks before the annual meeting. This would allow time, in the event of any of them being out of proper form, to correct what is amiss. Want of proper form has, I believe, once or twice created difficulty with the association.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

A PEAL OF TWELVE FOR BERKSHIRE.

ST. LAWRENCE'S, READING, TO HAVE TWO MORE BELLS.

A decision has been taken to add two trebles to the ring of ten at St. Lawrence's Church, Reading, to provide the first peal of twelve in Berkshire, but it means that the ringers have got to do their part in helping to raise the funds.

A scheme of restoration had previously been undertaken, by which a new frame and fittings for the old ten was to be provided, the treble recast and the other bells tuned. The contract was secured by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and it was felt that the opportunity should be taken to complete the twelve at the same time. Mr. 'Tom' Hibbert, who is the Foreman of this tower, as well as being Secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, worked assiduously to this end, and eventually persuaded the church authorities that such an extension was a desirable one. The authorities, already committed to an expenditure of £600 or £700, would not, however, shoulder any further financial responsibility, but in order that the opportunity should not be lost the necessary guarantee was given by the Master of the Guild (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn), who is confident that the necessary additional money, something near £200, can be raised.

The order was, therefore, placed for the new trebles and St. Lawrence's will now add one more to the rings of twelve in this country. The tenor is about 24 cwt., and when the bells have been tuned an excellent ring for their weight is promised. This addition will give the Diocese of Oxford a peal of twelve in each of the three Archdeaconries, viz., at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford; High Wycombe, Bucks; and Reading, Berks.

BOCKING BELLS FUND

On Saturday a very successful garden fete and sale of work and rummage sale was held in the Deanery Grounds, Bocking, in aid of the fund for the rehanging of the bells of St. Mary's Church. There were numerous competitions and sideshows, and between 2,000 and 3,000 people attended. Mrs. S. A. Courtauld opened the grounds at 2 p.m. The Braintree town band attended, and there was dancing in the evening. The takings amounted to about £150, and it is expected that, after expenses have been paid, £120 will go to the fund.

DEATH OF CROYDON RINGER.

We regret to record the death of a well-known and respected Croydon ringer, Mr. William Groves, who passed away after about two months' illness, at the age of 62 years. Mr. Groves was formerly connected with Croydon Parish Church, where he rang peals as far back as the 'nineties, but about four years ago, on leaving that parish, he joined the St. Peter's Society.

Some splendid examples of the deceased's handiwork can be seen in some of the wood carvings in the Parish Church, of which he was caretaker for a number of years.

The funeral service at St. Peter's and the interment at Mitcham Road Cemetery were conducted by the Rev. P. Thornton (senior curate), while as a last token of respect to their colleague and friend, the following rang at St. Peter's Church a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) in 55 mins., with the bells half-muffled: D. Wright 1, R. H. Dove 2, C. H. Kippen 3, J. W. Trappitt 4, F. W. Larbey 5, B. N. Newson 6, E. Denham 7, A. W. Clarke 8, F. E. Collins 9, W. J. Adcock 10.

A RINGER FROM BOYHOOD.

At Broughton Astley, Leicestershire, on Monday, August 26th, in 50 mins., a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grandsire Doubles in ten different callings: J. Brunt 1, F. S. Bodycote 2, C. E. Carr (conductor) 3, A. Bodycote 4, H. Bird 5. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to George Fretter, who died at the age of 66 years, and who had been a chorister and a ringer at the church from boyhood. He was interred in the churchyard earlier in the day. First quarter-peal as conductor.

GLIMPSES OF THE PAST.

CLIPPINGS FROM A SCRAP BOOK.

Ancient practices with regard to bells are always interesting, although they are not always concerned with change ringing. Time was, apparently, when in a town no bells could be rung before the bells of the Cathedral, or mother church, were rung, and, according to an old 'History of Bath,' a case in which this right was disputed arose in that city in 1421: 'The Prior of Bath had claimed the right of ringing the bells belonging to the abbey the first and last in the city; none of the parish churches tolling their bells (except in particular days) before the bells of the convent had struck out in the morning, nor after the Prior's curfew had tolled in the evening. This privilege the Mayor and citizens considered as an interference with their municipal rights, for even in the fifteenth century bells began to serve certain civil as well as ecclesiastical purposes. They, therefore, determined to interrupt the claims of the monastery by ringing the bells of the parish churches at hours hitherto unprecedented, both before and after the prior's bell had been sounded; and accordingly gained over to their cause John Barret, the Vicar of Stalles; John Lane, the Rector of Southgate; William Savage, Rector of St. Michael-without-the-Gate; John Hobbes and William Aishley, chaplains of St. John's and Magdalen Hospitals. This breach of privilege was highly resented by the monastery, and a contest arose in consequence of it that subsisted many years, occasionally fuming out into bitter invective and personal insult between the contending parties. At length, an inquisition, held at Frome in the ninth year of the reign of Henry V., put a period to the dispute by acknowledging and establishing the right of the prior that no one should ring within the precincts of Bath at day time before the prior had rung his bells, nor in the night time after his curfew had been tolled.'

WHAT THE CHURCHWARDENS PAID.

In the old days when bell founders set out to do a 'job' the churchwardens often had to pay out something more than the mere cost of the contract. There was often sundry refreshment to be provided, not infrequently plainly described as 'beere' or 'drink.' When the tenor at Lambeth Parish Church was taken down in 1602, one shilling was 'payde to laborers that did help to make them drinke.' Probably they did not want anything to help make the men themselves drink, but this is an ambiguous way of saying that money was paid to help make the drink for the men. The Woking churchwardens paid five shillings 'for beare for the ringers,' when the bells were rung after being recast in 1684. In addition to refreshment, churchwardens had also to find board and lodging for the bell-hangers. One, Udal, rehung these bells at Woking, and they paid 'Goody Davy 11s. 6d. for Udal's diet.' In 1619 the churchwardens at Pulham Market paid 'to mary haylles for Dymont's Dyet when the bells were taken down iijs.,' and 'to mary baylles for John Brend's Dyet when the bells were hanged, and for here and cakes iiijs. vijd.' John Brend, presumably, travelled to Pulham on horseback—as most of the travelling in those days was done, if one did not walk—and the wardens 'payd unto Egremynt for John Brend's horsemet when ye bells were hanged ijs.'

ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.

Nearly sixty years ago a writer in 'Church Bells' thus described a visit to St. Saviour's, Southwark, then the headquarters of the Ancient Society of College Youths: 'A walk of a few hundred yards from the London Bridge Station takes us to the iron gate of the churchyard, where, at 8 p.m. on alternate Mondays, will be found collected ten or twelve men who, as a body, are the finest ringers in the world. From them we meet with a cordial reception, and presently, after passing through a transept of the church, we follow our guide up one of those small winding stairs which all know so well. We grope our way across the first floor of the tower, hoping sincerely that no careless workman has left a trap-door open; another winding stair brings us to a vast chamber, now dim, but soon brilliantly lighted by a corona of gas. We are at once struck with the spaciousness of the place, and the absence of all crowding among the twelve ropes; the position of the tenor is indicated by an enormous box worthy of the deepest-toned bell of any ring in London. One or two of the larger bells are set at backstroke, and we are invited to "try the 11th." The small bells are rapidly raised one by one, and then three men begin to swing the tenor; she does not speak for a while, but presently her deep note B is heard vibrating through the tower, and gradually increases in power until she comes to a balance. After that she and others are rung in peal by one man. A tenor is often capricious in the matter of "going," and when she weighs upwards of 52 cwt. and "goes hard" it is as well to stick to odd-bell methods. We are therefore first treated to a touch of Stedman Caters and then with about 500 of Stedman's Cinques. Notwithstanding the intricacy of the method and the vast difference between the size of the larger and smaller bells, the striking is quite perfect. We are most astonished at the consummate ease and precision with which the heavy back bells are handled. A short touch of Grandsire Cinques, in which some of the younger members of the society show their skill, brings the practice to a close.'

In the sixty years which have elapsed since the above was written, St. Saviour's Church, Southwark, has become a cathedral, it is no longer the headquarters of the College Youths, and the tenor has had to cede pride of place as the deepest-toned bell of any rung in London. But the Ancient Society still meets at Southwark; its regular practising members are still among the finest ringers in the world, and Stedman Cinques is still a feature of these gatherings. There are old ringers on the active list who will probably remember some of the men who collected on those Monday evenings at the iron gate of the churchyard near London Bridge.

A MANLY EMPLOYMENT.

Two hundred years ago there lived at Totnes, Devon, a youth who, son of the parish clerk, later became Dr. Kennicott, a Canon of Christ Church and Regius Professor of Hebrew at Oxford. He placed on record the following 'articles' to which the Totnes ringers subscribed, and they set a standard both of fidelity to the art and of social promise which, if quaintly expressed, might nevertheless be an object lesson to many companies to-day:—

'Among the many recreations approved of by the sons of pleasure, ringing is a diversion that may be emphatically said to bear away the bell; and so much does it engage the natives of Great Britain, beyond all other nations, that it has borne the distinguishing appellation of "the ringing isle." The art, then, for which this kingdom is renowned shows a judicious taste in those of its inhabitants who have by their performances contributed thereto, since this art wants no foreign encomiast, but the harmonious bells are the heralds of their own praise. The ingenuity required for the diversion administered in, and the health subsequent upon this exercise, give it a particular sanction among mankind and recommend it as an employment at vacant hours worthy the regard of all denomintnions.

'We, therefore, whose names are subscribed, taking into consideration the great pleasure that results from this manly employment, the innocence with which it is performed, and the advantage enjoyed from so healthy an exercise of our bodies, and also having the peculiar satisfaction of ringing with ease a set of eight bells of established fame and applauded excellence, do hereby agree to meet together in the usual place of ringing every Monday evening at six o'clock for our improving this science; and for the greater certainty of attendance, we do hereby severally promise to forfeit the sum of threepence if not attending at the hour aforesaid, and sixpence if not present at seven o'clock, to be deposited in the hands of the treasurer for the time being, and spent as the major part of the society shall seem fit. And for the better regulation of this our fraternity, we do also hereby agree that we remain in the belfry during pleasure, and then for the further pleasure and benefit of conversation adjourn to any house the company shall choose, and then tarry till the hour of ten, and no longer.

'And whereas the stays supporting the bells are liable to damage from unskilful hands, we agree that whoever hurts shall repair the same at his own proper charge. We make no rules for conversation, nor penalties for any misbehaviour in it, resolving to render it innocently agreeable to each other, and whenever a breach of this rule is committed, that a reprimand be admitted from the society. In all cases and disputes not hereinbefore decided the majority of the company shall determine, that so this society amicably begun may be amicably carried on, and not meet the fate of others that have gone before it.'

RINGING FOR A DERBY WINNER.

Bells have been rung in the past for some strange reasons—it has been said, not without truth sometimes, that any excuse is good enough for the ringers to resort to their art. In the early '70's what was looked upon by some people as a judgment of the gods befel the ringers of All Saints' Church, Newmarket. 'Accidental as it may have been,' said one writer, 'let it be looked upon as a rebuke to the Parson and Churchwardens for allowing such a shameful desecration of the goods of the Church.' A newspaper reported the occurrences thus: 'Very singular accidents occurred in the steeple of All Saints' Church in this town (Newmarket) while the ringers were engaged in ringing peals on Thursday last. It appears that the set had just entered a peal in celebration of the Cottage Flower and Horticultural Exhibition, when the second bell jumped from its hangings and fell heavily upon the beams and floor supporting the frame. Having recovered from their fright, the ringers obtained assistance and replaced the bell and proceeded with their task, which they succeeded in accomplishing, and retired for refreshment. They reassembled in the evening on the occasion of the Cremorne Derby Entertainment ("Cremorne" had just won the Derby), and, while ringing merrily, a second mishap occurred, by the treble suddenly bouncing from its place, and, like its neighbour, the second, fell with a crash upon the already damaged floor; but, fortunately, the massive beams prevented her going down, consequently the ringers below escaped injury, and the bell was uninjured. The damage to the bell fittings and the frame could not be repaired in time to allow of further ringing on that day, and the merry peals which enlivened the town thus abruptly terminated.'

PRIZE RINGING ARRANGED BY PUBLICAN.

A prize-ringing contest at Floore, Northamptonshire, on September 13th, 1874, drew the following scathing comment from the editor of 'Church Bells' a week or two after the event: 'What could have induced the Vicar and Churchwardens of Floore to allow the bells of their Parish Church to disturb their quiet little village by ad-

(Continued in next column.)

BIRMINGHAM RINGERS' DAY IN LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday, August 24th, a party of ringers from St. Martin's Parish Church, Birmingham, accompanied by their ladies, paid a visit to Liverpool. Starting from Birmingham in fair weather, it commenced to rain during the journey, and on arrival at the destination they were greeted with a grey sky and a steady downpour, but to compensate for this they received a very cheerful welcome from Messrs. G. R. Newton and C. I. Davies, of the St. Nicholas' company. The Ringing Master, Mr. Albert Walker, had arranged a full programme for the day, and the party immediately proceeded with the first item—to inspect the 20,000 ton Cunard liner, 'Carinthia.' Under the guidance of a steward all the public parts of the vessel were thoroughly inspected. To see the first-class state rooms, containing full-sized beds and with bathrooms attached, also the dining, drawing and smoke rooms, set one wondering if the last stage in comfort and ocean travel accommodation had been reached. The visitors also inspected the swimming bath and gymnasium, the latter being fitted with all the latest equipment for physical exercises. Here the Ringing Master and secretary were permitted to have a cycle race, which, after a keen struggle, was won by the secretary by a 'short wheel.'

The next item on the programme was a visit to the new Cathedral. On approaching this, one is struck by the severely plain exterior, which is accentuated by the local red sandstone used. But when the building is completed and it has its huge central tower, no doubt its grandeur will be better appreciated. On entering the building, one faces the choir, which is dominated by the great east window, below which is a richly gilded stone reredos containing sculptured panels of scenes from our Lord's life. Another noticeable feature is the way the organ case, choir stalls and Bishop's throne all blend with the colour of the stone. Nor can one realise that the Lady Chapel has been used for services for almost 20 years.

An excellent lunch was next partaken of at the Oriel Restaurant, and this was followed by a trip across the river to Wallasey. On returning to the landing stage, the party were in time to see the White Star liner 'Adriatic' leave for New York. Meanwhile the weather had improved, and the sun was shining gloriously. It was now time to visit St. Nicholas' tower, and here the Birmingham ringers were met by a goodly company of local men. With their assistance, touches of Stedman Cinques and Cambridge Royal were successfully accomplished. Tea was served at the White Cafe, and the visitors greatly appreciated the company of the Liverpool ringers, who, Mr. Newton later announced, would have pleasure in defraying the cost of the meal. Mr. Walker, on behalf of the visitors, thanked them for their hospitality and cordial welcome to Liverpool and for their assistance in the tower,' and Messrs. Newton and Davies especially for having given up the whole day in order to make their visit a success. This was not the first time a company of ringers from Birmingham had visited Liverpool, for many years ago, when St. Nicholas' bells were put in, Birmingham ringers were awarded a silver cup for being the best company at the opening. But where that cup was now, no one knew. Mr. Walker gave them a cordial invitation to visit Birmingham and ring on St. Martin's new peal.—This was seconded by Mr. T. H. Reeves (hon. secretary), and Mr. Newton, on behalf of the local company, said the pleasure had been theirs, and that anything they had been able to do to make the visit enjoyable had been done willingly. They would like them to come again soon and ring a peal of Stedman Cinques.—Mr. Walker thanked Mr. Newton for the invitation, which he hoped to accept at no very distant date.

(Continued from previous column.)

mitting to the belfry six sets of strange ringers to pull about the church bells under an arrangement made by the landlord of the village public-house, who appears to have managed this ungodly competition? As usual, the publican seems to have come in for the lion's share arising out of the day's proceedings. We hope there will be no repetition of such useless fooleries. One of the first steps in belfry reform is to sever the link between the belfry and the village taproom. Surely it is the duty of all parsons and churchwardens, by their influence and authority, to effect this, and then they will easily succeed in raising the tone and respectability of their ringers.'

AN 'ACCIDENT' THAT NEVER HAPPENED.

'Lead-swingers' have been always with us. The 'Annual Register of October 13th, 1804,' recorded the following: 'A singular accident happened at the new church, Dagenham, Essex. The Society of Cumberland Youths were invited to open the new peal of bells, on which they performed in the morning by ringing 7,008 changes of Oxford Treble Bob in 4 hrs 49 mins., but in the evening Mr. Channon, Master of the Society, wished to oblige the inhabitants of the village with another peal, when unfortunately his leg got entangled in the rope, which drew him up to the next loft, and, falling thence on his head, was killed on the spot, the part of his skull being beat in so that the brains oozed out through the cavities.' A vivid description of the gruesome end of a celebrated ringer of those days—or it would have been had it been accurate. Happily for Mr. Channon, there was not a word of truth in it; and, in fact, the whole paragraph was a fabrication. At that time Dagenham had only six bells, and Mr. Channon read the description of the 'fatal accident' to himself many years after.

AFTERNOON TRIP IN SOMERSET.

On Saturday, August 24th, six ringers from East Brent, South Brent, Axbridge, and one from Port Talbot, Glam, had a tour of about 60 miles, in the course of which they rang at four towers. Croscombe was the first on the list, when five 120's of Grandsire Doubles were rung. Pilton was visited next, where a similar touch was scored. At West Pennard the Vicar and one of the local band gave the visitors a helping hand to 'rise' the bells, and then two 240's were rung. Time would not allow further ringing here, although ringing on this lovely peal was much enjoyed. Shapwich was the last call, and 240 was all that could be rung here. A 15-mile ride brought the party safely home about 10.30 p.m., after a pleasant afternoon in the country. The best thanks of the band are given for the use of the bells and to the ringers who kindly met the visitors.

A TWELVE-BELL OUTING.

The ringers of St. Mary's, Taunton, held their annual outing on Saturday, August 24th, journeying by charabanc via Bath (where Mr. W. A. Cave, Bristol, Miss Williams, Bath, and Mr. W. Crocker, a former member of the band, met the party) to Stroud, where Mr. A. Wright welcomed them. Here the fine peal of ten was set going in Stedman Caters. The next move was to Painswick, where the famous ring of 12 was rung in Stedman Cinques. Lunch followed at the Golden Heart Hotel, after which the party proceeded to Cheltenham, where Mr. W. T. Pates gave a welcome to the party, and the ring of 12 was set going in Stedman Cinques. After tea, the party went on to St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, where Mr. H. Pring awaited the visitors, and further Stedman Cinques were rung. The party wish to thank the incumbent of each parish for the use of the bells, also Messrs. A. Wright, W. T. Pates and H. Pring for making arrangements.

FAIRFORD RINGERS' EXCURSION.

The Fairford (Glos) ringers and friends had their annual outing on Saturday, August 24th. Setting off at 7.45 a.m., East Isley, Berks, was reached at 9.15. On this nice light peal of eight, ringing was enjoyed for about an hour. Peasemore was the next stop, where the party were met by Mr. Rosier (head ringer), also by one of the churchwardens, who gave the visitors a warm welcome on behalf of the Vicar, who was away. The bells at Peasemore are a lovely peal of six, and ringing on them was very much enjoyed.

Chievely was the next call, and before the visitors had been ringing long they were joined by several of the local ringers, who requested them to come again.

Newbury was reached at 1.10, and here they were met by Mr. Curtis, who had kindly arranged a hot luncheon. Afterwards, the fine peal of eight was set going. Some were in the belfry watching the bells swing, while others went to the top of the tower sightseeing. Hungerford was next on the programme. Here was found a nice peal of eight, but rather noisy. Tea had been kindly arranged here by Mr. Wiggins. Last, but not least, the party visited St. Mark's, Swindon, and, and after ringing here on the nice ring of eight, supper, kindly arranged by Mr. W. Smith, was enjoyed by all. Fairford was reached at 11.15, after a very enjoyable day.

CROYDON RINGERS' TRIP.

St. John-the-Baptist company, Croydon, held their annual outing on Saturday, recently, when they journeyed by motor-coach to Seaford. A company of 20 ringers and friends started at 7.30, and a pleasant ride via Turners Hill brought them to Lindfield, the first stop. Here touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were rung at the Parish Church. The journey was then continued to Brighton, where they found St. Peter's bells ready for them. After photographs of the group had been taken, this lovely peal of bells were soon ringing out to the tune of Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples and Cambridge Surprise Major. Then a much-needed course of refreshments of various kinds, and a lovely ride along the cliffs, brought the party to Seaford and dinner time. An excellent meal was enjoyed at the Dorothy Cafe, and then a move was made to Seaford tower. On the handy ring of eight bells Grandsire Stedman and Cambridge were rung. After this, the afternoon was free for the ringers to spend as they liked. Some found the pebbles on the beach quite comfortable for an afternoon nap, others preferred deck chairs, and the rest viewed the sights of the town till tea time, when they reassembled and were welcomed to Seaford by Mr. Fisher, the churchwarden, who was a member of the fire brigade at Croydon, when the Parish Church was burnt down some 62 years ago, and who had some interesting tales to tell. The return journey was made via Lewes to Mayfield, where a short ring was indulged in. The visitors met the Horley band, also on their annual outing. The Croydon band went on to Tunbridge Wells, where they rang Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Cambridge Major, then home to Croydon with community singing, and a little refreshment to help them on their way. Croydon was reached at 11.30, and so ended a very enjoyable day. The band take this opportunity of thanking the incumbents for the use of the bells, and the steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

DEPTFORD.—On Sunday, September 1st, for evening service, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) from Holt's Original: R. A. Fosdike 1, W. A. Martin 2, F. W. Thornton 3, P.S. R. Steers 4, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 5, P.C. C. Elliott 6, P.C. C. Davies 7, A. F. Petrie 8.

FARINGDON, BERKS.—On Sunday, September 1st, at All Saints' Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): G. Wornham 1, G. Webley 2, F. Wheeler 3, G. Bettes 4, C. I. J. Pearce (conductor) 5, E. C. Hughes 6, T. Clark 7, J. Beasley 8.

READING.—On Sunday, September 1st, for Patronal Festival evensong, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 52 mins.: W. Osborne (first quarter-peal) 1, A. W. Osborne 2, L. T. Osborne 3, H. Osborne 4, A. Bailey 5, A. Jeffery 6, G. R. Goodship (conductor) 7, R. Sawyer 8.

GREAT BARDFIELD.—At St. Mary's Church, for memorial service, on Sunday, August 25th, in 43 mins., a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): W. Richardson 1, G. Hills 2, A. Piper 3, F. Suckling 4, W. Piper 5, G. Piper 6, E. Townsend 7, J. Jennings (conductor) 8. Also rung in honour of the birthday of C.S.M. A. Piper.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—At the Parish Church of St. Thomas, for matins, on Sunday, August 25th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Johnson 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Scott, jun., 3, W. Scott 4, A. Callaway 5, S. Moody 6, W. Upton (conductor) 7, W. H. G. Scott 8. Also as a birthday compliment to W. Chambers and W. H. G. Scott, and rung on the 20th wedding anniversary of the conductor.

NEWMARKET, SUFFOLK.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, August 25th, for evensong, 720 changes Bob Minor: Mrs. L. Warner 1, O. A. Moody 2, M. White 3, L. Moon 4, L. Warner 5, R. Sharpe (conductor) 6. Rung as a farewell to M. White, who is leaving the band to join the Royal Air Force.

GUILDFORD.—On Sunday, August 18th, for evening service at S. Nicolas', a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,295 changes): A. Collier 1, C. Hazelden 2, F. Radford 3, E. Etheridge 4, Mrs. C. Hazelden 5, T. Theobald 6, G. Tomsett 7, E. Raddon 8, S. Radford (conductor) 9, R. Radford 10. First quarter by ringers of 1st and 6th, and first attempt.

RINGER'S SILVER WEDDING.

At Croft, Leicestershire, on Saturday, August 31st, at the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, 720 Grandsire Doubles in 20 mins.: J. H. Bailess 1, Wm. Lomas 2, Frank Bailess 3, M. E. Watson (conductor) 4, Wm. A. Wood 5, A. E. Warwick 6. Rung in honour of the visit of Rev. A. T. G. Blackmore, M.A., former Rector of the parish. Also to commemorate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Webb, who were married exactly 25 years ago at this church, where Mr. Webb is one of the ringers.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THREE TOWERS TIE IN SHIELD CONTEST.

The annual shield contest of the Barnsley and District Association took place on Saturday at Crofton, by kind permission of Rev. H. Brownrigg (Rector) and the churchwardens. Wath, Sandal, and Shelley rang as drawn, and, strange to relate, each made the same number of faults, viz., 121. The last tower to compete made many more faults, but the three named have to go through the contest again at an early date. Tea was served during an interval in the ringing. In the Parochial Room an entertainment was given by one of the local company, Mr. Cooke, who as a 'strong man' gave many displays of strength, including weight-lifting, bending and breaking bars of iron by hand, balancing a piano on his chest, while two men with a strong rope could not throttle him, etc.

A vote of thanks was heartily accorded to Mrs. Brownrigg, who should have presented the prizes and had attended the proceedings. Rev. H. Brownrigg, Rector, was unremitting in his kindness. He, with the churchwardens and local men, were warmly thanked.

'ODDS & ENDS OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES'

Being mainly an explanation of the nature and working of the Q sets in ordinary ringing phraseology, with one or two other matters.

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NOTICES.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 12th and 26th, *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 17th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 19th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Eyam on Sept. 7th. Bells open early. Tea can be had by applying to Mrs. Godber, Refreshment Rooms, Eyam. Visitors will be welcome and it is hoped that we shall have a good attendance.—R. Harrison, Hon. Sec.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Aberavon on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Bells (8) available for ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. — E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—The autumn quarterly meeting will be held at Kenn on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Service 4. Tea (1s. each) 4.45. Bells available: Kenn (6), Alphington (8), Exminster (6), Kenton (6). All ringers welcome.—Miss E. Lomas, Whimple, Devon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, September 7th. Bells ready at 3 30 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is requested; business very important.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 8, Oaklands Road, Edenfield.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The 3rd quarterly meeting will be held at Billesdon on Saturday, September 7th. Bells (5) available from 3 p.m. Tea in the Old School at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting.—Alban Disney, Local Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Bishop's Cannings on Saturday, September 7th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Guild service 4.40. Tea 5. Business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Green, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Next meeting at Navenby (new peal of 6 by Taylor) Saturday, Sept. 7th. Tower open 2 p.m. Silver Queen bus leaves Lincoln at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.; returns from Grantham at 6.15 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. Notification to tea to Harold Marcon, Dis. Sec., 269, Wragby Road, Lincoln.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern District will be held at Shildon on Saturday, September 7th. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—J. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 71, Surtees Street, Darlington.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Peasemore on Saturday, September 7th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at 1/-. All ringers welcome. —H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The Summer meeting will be held at Broadway Old Church on Saturday, September 7th. Service, with an address by the Vicar, the Rev. V. H. Patrick, at 4.30 p.m. prompt. Midland red buses leave Evesham for Broadway at 1 and 2 p.m.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Crewkerne (8 bells) on Saturday, September 7th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow.—F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec. North Street, Martock.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting will be held at Hollingbourne on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea after service. All ringers welcome. Please notify me not later than Tuesday, Sept. 10th.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Meeting at Northaw on Saturday, September 14th. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service at 5. Tea at usual terms at 5.30. Please advise me by 11th, without fail. Members and friends cordially invited. Nearest stations; Cuffley and Potters Bar. Buses from Barnet. Practice meeting at St. Mark's, Dalston, on Thursday, September 19th. Bells from 7 to 9 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—District meeting at Godalming, Saturday, September 14th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 1/-. Business meeting. Numbers for tea to Mr. C. Childs, Hethsett, Queen Street, Godalming, by September 10th please.—G. L. Grover, District Sec., Merrow Cottage, East Clandon.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be held at High Easter on Saturday, September 14th. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock; usual arrangements. All those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, the 11th, last post.—H. W. Kirton, Longmeads Cottage, Writtle, Chelmsford.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Presteigne District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kington on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (6) available at 4 p.m. Service at 5. Tea 5.30, free to those who notify me not later than Wednesday, Sept. 11th. Business meeting after tea.—J. C. Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Herefordshire.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Huntington, near York, on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. York Minster (12) available 6.30 to 8 p.m. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head, and all applications for same must reach Mr. G. Rank, New Lane, Malton Road, York, not later than first post, Tuesday, Sept. 10th.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. General Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —A meeting will be held at Prescot on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Meeting to follow. Members make their own arrangements for tea.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec., Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hoghton on Saturday, September 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. —By the invitation of the Huntington Guild the quarterly meeting will be held at Huntington, near York, on Saturday, September 14th.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. A meeting will be at Cross Stone, Todmorden, on Saturday, September 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.: business—Election of Branch President. Tea will be provided at the Bay Horse Inn at a charge of 1/6 per head for those who send in their names to Miss R. A. Bell, Lower East Lee, Eastwood, Todmorden, not later than Wednesday, September 11th.—William Horan, Branch Secretary, 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wraxall on Saturday, September 14th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.15. Tea at Battle Axes Hotel 5. Will those desiring tea kindly let me know by September 11th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION. — The half-yearly meeting will be held at Llandudno on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available 2 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. Tea will be provided. Please notify me not later than Tuesday, Sept. 10th.—W. Cathrall, Hon. Sec., 20, Ffodd Estyn, Garden Village, Wrexham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next meeting will be held at Cotgrave on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Will all those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. White, Post Office, Cotgrave, by the 12th inst.?—F. W. Bailey, Local Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Crawley on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Tower opened 3 p.m. Kindly notify me all requiring tea. All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Willoughby (6) on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of the Beds and Herts Associations will be held at Biggleswade on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy; Mr. D. Mears, School House, Offley, Hitchen.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Milford-on-Sea on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m.—G. Preston, Dis. Sec., 3, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District. — The next meeting will be held at Woodhouse Eaves on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (6) ready at 3.30 p.m.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A by-meeting will be held at Catherington on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Will all those intending to be present kindly inform me by Wednesday, the 11th? All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—The next meeting will be held at Wilden on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (5) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. C. Bonnett, Stagsden, Bedford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of above branch will be held at Great Brickhill on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Sept. 9th. All visitors welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Marlborough Branch.—The next meeting of the branch will be held at Chiseldon on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Those requiring tea kindly notify the secretary.—Cyril Hussey, Hon. Sec., East Leaze, Baydon, Marlborough.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—A meeting will be held at Long Stanton on Saturday, September 14th. Will those requiring tea please send a card to Mr. F. Wallington, Long Stanton, Cambridge.—Katherine Fields, Dis. Sec., High Street, St. Neots.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Central Bucks Branch.—Meeting at Winslow, Saturday, September 14th. Ringing 2.15 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., 1/- each. Please send number for tea to the Hon. Sec., Rev. J. F. Amies, Edgcote Rectory, Aylesbury, by Tuesday, September 10th.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Stone on Sat., Sept., 14th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. All ringer . welcome.—A. J. Battin, Hon. Sec., Heronden Hall Gardens, Tenterden.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—The next meeting will be held at Tideswell on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Church of St. John the Baptist. Eight bells (tenor 13 cwt.) available afternoon and evening. Tea (free). Meeting in the Institute at 5 p.m. Tea will only be guaranteed to those who notify Mr. Giles Chapman, Belmont House, Tideswell, by Sept. 12th. A good attendance is hoped for.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., Leamwood, Dore.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Tideswell in connection with the Peak District of the Midland Counties Association. Arrangements for tea, please see M.C.A. notice.—N. Cawthorne, Hon. Sec., 394, Handsworth Road, Sheffield.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Hythe on Saturday, September 21st, by kind permission of Rev. Chestel de Boinville. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting. Election of officers for the coming year. A good attendance is requested. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Barking on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea in Municipal Restaurant 5.15 p.m., 1s. per head. Will those intending to be present and requiring tea advise Mr. G. W. Faulkner, 84, Abbey Road, Barking, by Thursday, the 19th, latest? This meeting has been specially arranged in conjunction with the Week's Hallowing Services held in connection with the restoration of the ancient Abbey Church of St. Margaret's. All ringing friends cordially invited.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Beddington on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Tower open for ringing 3 o'clock. Service 5 p.m. Tea following. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, Sept. 18th.—D. Cooper, Hon. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The eighth annual commemoration dinner to the memory of the late Jasper Whitfield Snowdon and past officers of the Yorkshire Association will be held at the King's Head Hotel, Change Alley, Sheffield, on Saturday, Sept. 21st, when the chair will be taken by the Venerable John Russell Darbyshire, M.A., Archdeacon of Sheffield, at 6 p.m. prompt. The bells of the Cathedral (12) and St. Marie's R.C. (8) will be available from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Good accommodation provided for visitors staying overnight if desired. Dinner tickets (price 5s. 6d. each) may be had from Messrs. G. Lewis, R. Harrison, jun., and M. E. Wilson, or direct from the undersigned not later than Tuesday, Sept. 17th. Kindly enclose remittance with application.—Sidney F. Palmer, 87, Bradley Street, Crookes, Sheffield.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — West Dorset Branch.—For the quarterly meeting to be held on Sept. 21st the following three towers will be visited: Rampisham, Evershot and South Perrott. A charabanc will call for ringers at Bridport 2 p.m., Bradpole 2.10 p.m., Netherbury 2.20 and Beaminster and Stoke Abbott 2.30 p.m. Teas will be provided only for those sending names by the 17th inst.—T. Hervey Beams, Hon. Sec., Bradpole, Bridport.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Battle on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation, at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow. Will all those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday, Sept. 18th?—G. W. Stokes, Hon. Dis. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch. — A meeting of the above branch will be held at Stone, near Kidderminster, on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—A. J. Skelding, Branch Sec., 7, Cecil Street, Stourbridge.

DEVON GUILD.—North-Eastern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stoodleigh on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea, 1s. each, 5.15. Will those requiring tea send their names without fail to Mr. Bishop, Church Cottage, Stoodleigh, by Tuesday, Sept. 17th?—M. Hanson, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The next meeting will be held at Caldicot on Saturday, Sept. 21st (St. Matthew's Day). Bells (8) available all the afternoon. Meeting at 4.30, followed by tea and service at 6 p.m.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Barrack Road, Newport, Mon.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION. — The Crawford Silver Cup Competition will be held at East Markham, near Tuxford, on Saturday, Sept. 21st. First company drawn to take ropes at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting to be held after contest. Those desiring tea must inform the honorary secretary before Sept. 18th. Bells available to all ringers immediately after contest. All ringers welcome. Good attendance requested. Good bus services from all directions.—R. W. Stockdale, 34, High Street, Ordsall, Retford, and H. Revill, Hon. Secs.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The annual dinner will be held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday, Nov. 9th, at 6.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec.

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